

REMARKS

The parent application is expressly abandoned with the filing of this RCE application. The parent application has been through appeal. This Preliminary Amendment adds new claims which are believed to patently define over the prior art of record in the parent application, based upon the discussion within the opinion delivered by the Board of Patent Appeals and interferences. That is, based upon the discussion of the teachings of the various cited references and the teachings within the references themselves, the newly-added claims are believed to distinctly define over the cited prior art.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that all claims 26-31 are in proper condition for allowance, and respectfully request that the Examiner pass this case to issuance. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

A check for \$370 is enclosed to cover the filing fee for this RCE application. No additional fee is believed to be due in connection with this Preliminary Amendment. Any deficiency or additional fees that may be required are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 20-0778.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Daniel R. McClure", written over a horizontal line.

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